

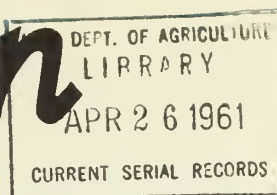
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# Foreign



# CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, APRIL, 17, 1961

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NUMBER 16

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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CANADA IMPORTING  
MORE U.S. COTTON

Canadian mills continue to make extensive purchases of U.S. cotton.

Imports of cotton from the United States amounted to 90 percent of total imports of 100,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during the first 5 months (August-December) of 1960-61. In the same period of 1959-60, U.S. cotton made up about two-thirds (81,000 bales) of total imports of 122,000 bales. Most of the remaining cotton in both years was obtained from Mexico.

Based on the rate and source of imports in the first 5 months, the United States will supply a somewhat larger proportion of Canada's total cotton needs this season than the 315,000 bales or 86 percent of total supplied in 1959-60. Factors contributing to prospective larger purchases of U.S. cotton include importer choice made possible by a wide range of styles and qualities of cotton in this country, closely competitive prices, and sharply reduced supplies in many major exporting countries.

(Continued on page 24)

# INDIA SHARPLY INCREASES TOBACCO EXPORTS TO SUDAN

India exported 645,000 pounds of unmanufactured tobacco to Sudan in the first 10 months of 1960--6 times initial shipments in 1959.

Sudan is one of the fastest growing tobacco importers in Africa owing to the expanded production of cigarettes by a new factory at Wad Medani. The factory used over 300,000 pounds of tobacco in 1959 and about double that amount in 1960. Sudan has imported over one million pounds of cigarettes annually for the last 10 years.

Sudan's farmers are increasing their income by exporting more cotton. If the economic situation progresses enough, Sudan may be able to purchase some U.S. tobacco for blending.

## RHODESIAS-NYASALAND EXPORTS LESS FIRE-CURED TOBACCO LAST YEAR

Exports of fire-cured tobacco by the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland dropped slightly in 1960 to 19.1 million pounds--3 percent below those of 1959.

Exports to the United Kingdom and Sierra Leone increased enough to almost offset a sharp 90-percent drop in shipments to the Republic of the Congo (formerly Belgian Congo). Shipments to other important markets in 1960, including the Netherlands, Canary Islands, Portuguese Overseas Territories, Western Africa, and Belgium, were about the same as in 1959.

### FIRE-CURED TOBACCO: Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, exports by destination, 1958-1960

Destination	1958	1959	1960
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United Kingdom.....	6,464	5,285	6,224
Canary Islands.....	1,576	2,031	2,135
Netherlands.....	2,035	2,083	2,056
Sierra Leone.....	1,900	1,177	1,960
Portuguese Overseas Territories.....	1,361	1,017	1,195
French Africa.....	1,740	1,180	1,135
Liberia.....	788	662	808
Congo Republic.....	3,338	4,074	401
Belgium.....	262	489	400
Sweden.....	284	237	383
Other.....	1,793	1,524	2,420
Total.....	21,541	19,759	19,117

U.S. TOBACCO EXPORTS DROP  
SLIGHTLY IN FEBRUARY

U.S. exports of unmanufactured tobacco in February 1961 totaled 24.7 million pounds (export weight)--down 3.1 percent from the same month a year ago. The value of February 1961 exports was \$18.1 million--a drop of 6.7 percent from February 1960.

Gains were made this year in burley, Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured, Virginia fire-cured, Black Fat, and cigar wrapper. Flue-cured was down from 19.4 million pounds to 16.4 million.

For the first 2 months of calendar 1961, exports totaled 47.1 million pounds--down 2.9 percent from January and February 1960. For the first 8 months of fiscal 1961, however, exports totaled 398.6 million pounds--up 10.3 percent from the first 8 months of fiscal 1960.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: U.S. exports, by types, February and January-February 1960 and 1961, with percentage change  
(Export weight)

Type	February		Percent change	January-February		Percent change
	1960	1961		1960	1961	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Flue-cured.....	19,402	16,394	-15.5	35,486	32,841	-7.5
Burley.....	2,395	3,037	+26.8	5,729	5,046	-11.9
Dark-fired Ky. Tenn.:	908	2,114	+132.8	2,485	3,713	+49.4
Va. fire-cured 1/...	708	1,112	+57.1	1,303	1,639	+25.8
Maryland.....	700	516	-26.3	1,061	1,232	+16.1
Green River.....	335	220	-34.3	496	230	-53.6
One Sucker.....	61	62	+1.6	84	68	-19.0
Black Fat, etc.....	402	534	+32.8	595	946	+59.0
Cigar wrapper.....	270	310	+14.8	693	637	-8.1
Cigar binder.....	73	48	-34.2	153	87	-43.1
Cigar filler.....	19	10	-47.4	27	10	-63.0
Other.....	179	317	+77.1	412	648	+57.3
Total.....	25,452	24,674	-3.1	48,524	47,097	-2.9
	Million dollars	Million dollars	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Percent
Declared value.....	19.4	18.1	-6.7	36.4	34.8	-4.4

1/ Includes sun-cured. Bureau of the Census.



U.S. exports of tobacco products in February 1961 were valued at \$7.6 million--up 5.6 percent from February 1960. Exports of cigarettes, at 1,606 million pieces, were 7.8 percent larger than last year; exports of smoking tobacco in packages were up 28.6 percent. Exports of cigars and cheroots, chewing tobacco and snuff, and smoking tobacco in bulk were smaller than in February 1960.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: U.S. exports, February and January-February  
1960 and 1961, with percentage change

Products and value	: February	:Percent:	January-February:	Percent		
	: 1960 :	1961 :	change :	1960 :	1961 :	change
Cigars and cheroots	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pieces).....	1,821	1,071	-41.2	3,244	2,318	-28.5
Cigarettes	:	:	:	:	:	:
(million pieces).....	1,490	1,606	+7.8	2,932	3,339	+13.9
Chewing and snuff	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pounds).....	88	76	-13.6	190	157	-17.4
Smoking tobacco in pkgs.:	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pounds).....	63	81	+28.6	106	140	+32.1
Smoking tobacco in bulk :	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pounds).....	507	395	-22.1	1,236	752	-39.2
Total declared value :	:	:	:	:	:	:
(million dollars).....	7.2	7.6	+5.6	14.2	15.7	+10.6
Bureau of the Census.						

CANADIANS AUCTION  
FLUE-CURED TOBACCO

As of March 24, auction sales of Canadian 1960-crop, flue-cured tobacco produced in Ontario totaled 194.5 million pounds, at an average price equivalent to about 56 U.S. cents per pound. Small quantities treated with maleic hydrazide are not included in the data.

ALGERIA EXPECTS SMALL  
LENTIL OUTTURN

Unsatisfactory weather in Algeria and low prices for last year's lentil harvest have sharply reduced lentil acreage this season.

Preliminary estimates indicate that 20,000 acres will be planted to lentil for 1961 harvest, compared with almost 50,000 in 1960. In the past, Algeria has been a major exporter of lentils, averaging 325,000 bags from 1950 through 1954 mostly to France, Germany, and Italy. Recent exports have dropped below 150,000 bags annually.

The weather has also delayed the planting of peas and broad beans.

## AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPPED TO U.S. IN EARLY MARCH

Two ships left Australia in early March with 4,639,040 pounds of frozen beef for the United States.

The Mariposa sailed March 15 with 1,288,000 pounds--752,640 for Los Angeles and 535,360 for San Francisco.

The Baltic Sea sailed March 17 with 3,351,040 pounds--3,048,640 for New York, 224,000 for Philadelphia, 33,600 for Boston, and 44,800 for Chicago.

The Ellen Bakke, which sailed March 6 (Foreign Crops and Markets, April 10, 1961), loaded an additional 33,600 pounds for Los Angeles.

## JAPAN'S "BIG 7" IMPORTS SET RECORD IN 1960

Japan's "Big 7" imports--barley, corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, tallow, and hides and skins--reached a record \$852 million in 1960.

These imports were up 14 percent from 1959 (12 percent if allowance is made for price changes). Purchases in the October-December period of 1960 declined slightly from the third quarter, but they held 12 percent above the level of the final quarter of 1959.

During the year, Big 7 imports from the United States increased 50 percent but from all other sources declined 9 percent. Thus, the U.S. share increased from 39 to 52 percent, with a value only slightly below the record set in 1957. After adjustment for price changes, the volume of Big 7 imports from the United States reached a postwar high--17 percent above the 1957 level.

No barley was imported in 1960 because of domestic pricing problems. Corn and soybean imports reached record levels, each exceeding one million tons for the first time. The United States held the lion's share of the soybean market but lost much of the corn trade to Argentina, Thailand, and the Union of South Africa. Record quantities of wheat were imported. Canada supplied most of the increase and continued to hold the largest share of the market, reflecting the increasing demand for hard wheats.

Cotton imports exceeded 3 million bales for the first time since 1937, while prices strengthened during the year. The United States regained its position as first supplier, as purchases from Mexico declined about one-fifth from the previous year.

Imports of tallow and hides and skins reached new levels, each increasing about one-eighth. The United States supplied a larger share in each case than in 1959.



JAPAN: Comparison between imports of selected agricultural  
products from all sources and from the United States,  
calendar years 1958-60

Commodity	QUANTITY					
	1958		1959		1960	
	Total	From U.S.	Total	From U.S.	Total	From U.S.
	- - - - - 1,000 metric tons - - - - -					
Wheat.....	2,280	1,092	2,412	873	2,678	981
Barley.....	716	429	488	138	0	0
Corn.....	666	348	913	338	1,354	184
Hides and skins.....	76	51	87	40	97	67
Soybeans.....	905	777	997	951	1,128	1,091
Cotton 1/.....	2,342	916	2,790	681	3,222	1,718
Tallow.....	115	95	141	116	158	144

	VALUE					
	- - - - - Million dollars - - - - -					
Wheat.....	154.2	75.1	160.6	58.0	176.9	63.0
Barley.....	41.4	24.2	28.3	7.5	0	0
Corn.....	40.0	20.9	53.4	19.9	81.0	11.2
Hides and skins.....	26.4	15.5	40.6	16.8	41.3	24.6
Soybeans.....	90.8	77.3	96.2	90.2	107.4	103.0
Cotton.....	340.3	128.0	341.0	78.2	420.2	215.2
Tallow.....	24.6	20.2	27.2	21.9	25.3	23.0
Total.....	717.7	361.2	747.3	292.5	852.1	440.0

1/ 1,000 bales of 480 pounds net.

NEW ZEALAND SOUTHDOWN  
BRINGS RECORD PRICE

A Southdown ram sold for the world's record price of 3,100 guineas (\$9,114) at a sale in Christchurch, New Zealand, February 2, 1961.

The ram, Punchbowl O.276, was bred on a farm in Maheno. It was sold to 3 brothers who farm at Waikoikoi, Gore. The record price was paid at this year's Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association's Stud Ram Fair. The previous record price for Southdowns in New Zealand was set at the Wairarapa Fair in 1958 when 2,100 and 2,200 guineas (\$6,174 and \$6,468) were received for 2 rams.

#### NEW ZEALAND OPENS MEAT RESEARCH LABORATORY

The New Zealand Meat Research Institute opened new laboratories at Hamilton on March 4.

Major emphasis will be given to the improvement of quality and preservation methods of livestock and meat products for export. This venture is a step of major importance in New Zealand's efforts to expand exports of these products.

The institute was formed in 1955 with financial backing from private meat companies, the New Zealand Meat Producer's Board, and the New Zealand Government. It began research operations on a modest scale in 1957 and operated with limited facilities until March of this year.

Exhaustive research will be done on all phases of processing and handling. The institute is divided into 4 main functional divisions--microbiology, biochemistry, engineering, and technical improvement.

Facilities have been designed and constructed so that research, practical testing and development, and pilot plant operations can be carried out more easily and comprehensively than is practicable in plants of individual companies.

#### U.S. COARSE GRAIN EXPORTS DOWN 8 PERCENT

U.S. coarse grain exports from July 1960 through January 1961 were 6.4 million tons--a 7-percent decrease from the 6.9 million shipped in the same period last year.

Corn exports were up but oats, barley, and sorghums were down. Corn shipments totaled 3.6 million tons--up 10 percent from last year's 3.3 million. Increased exports to the United Kingdom (1.2 million tons) and the Netherlands (600,000) largely account for the increase.

Exports of oats totaled 257,000 tons--down 43 percent from last year's 454,000 tons. Major markets in Western Europe took less than a year ago, particularly West Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and Denmark. The Netherlands received 80 percent of total shipments.

Barley exports of 1.1 million tons were down 34 percent from last year largely because of decreased shipments to Japan and Western Europe.

Sorghum exports of 1.5 million tons were down 4 percent from last year's 1.6 million. Shipments were lower to West Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium but higher to the United Kingdom.

COARSE GRAINS: U.S. exports to principal countries, July-January 1959-60 and July-January 1960-61

Country of destination	Corn <sup>1/</sup>	Oats	Barley	Sorghums	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
July-January 1959-60:					
Canada .....	372,928:	22 :	1,045:	506:	374,501
Other Western Hemisphere .....	52,526:	3,005 :	38,729:	8,893:	103,153
Austria .....	150,427:	5,177 :	27,041:	2,000:	184,645
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	226,780:	24,634 :	100,650:	374,663:	726,727
Denmark .....	42,450:	13,267 :	166,954:	142,393:	365,064
France .....	16,319:	-- :	-- :	-- :	16,319
West Germany .....	234,919:	104,806 :	280,855:	185,015:	805,595
Greece .....	8,021:	-- :	12,203:	-- :	20,224
Ireland .....	36,548:	508 :	13,792:	2,032:	52,879
Italy .....	34,853:	3,785 :	21,640:	80:	60,358
Netherlands .....	571,185:	253,080 :	370,635:	423,368:	1,618,268
Norway .....	44,962:	-- :	3,353:	58,193:	106,508
Poland .....	47,874:	-- :	276,435:	60,990:	385,299
Spain .....	33,695:	69 :	65,272:	-- :	99,036
Sweden .....	14,677:	25,568 :	1,856:	28,825:	70,926
Switzerland .....	4,443:	18,791 :	28,654:	1,431:	53,319
United Kingdom .....	1,079,785:	2,032 :	67,174:	94,774:	1,243,765
Other Europe .....	20,655:	167 :	2,042:	-- :	22,864
India .....	39,260:	-- :	-- :	-- :	39,260
Israel .....	36,449:	17 :	13,717:	105,195:	155,378
Japan .....	137,595:	-- :	57,813:	-- :	195,408
Other Asia and Oceania .....	5,902:	45 :	65,038:	-- :	70,985
Egypt .....	49,943:	-- :	5,750:	9,893:	65,586
Other Africa .....	13,691:	-- :	20,770:	41,469:	75,930
Total .....	3,275,887:	454,973 :	1,641,418:	1,539,720:	6,911,998
July-January 1960-61:					
Canada .....	477,809:	-- :	13,428:	12,942:	504,179
Other Western Hemisphere .....	54,666:	2,016 :	31,711:	11,973:	100,366
Austria .....	87,363:	3,476 :	56,086:	11,081:	158,006
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	269,323:	19,726 :	51,559:	270,207:	610,815
Denmark .....	11,565:	759 :	41,750:	28,649:	82,723
France .....	3,269:	-- :	-- :	747:	4,016
West Germany .....	192,945:	7,212 :	105,477:	68,628:	374,262
Greece .....	72,727:	-- :	30,108:	-- :	102,835
Ireland .....	33,958:	-- :	1,524:	-- :	35,482
Italy .....	16,265:	7,875 :	35,712:	17,125:	76,977
Netherlands .....	632,185:	206,292 :	154,227:	395,066:	1,387,770
Norway .....	21,708:	-- :	508:	37,858:	60,074
Poland .....	49,797:	-- :	212,447:	87,199:	349,443
Spain .....	75,756:	-- :	103,985:	-- :	179,741
Sweden .....	1,942:	1,040 :	2,754:	6,723:	12,459
Switzerland .....	8,164:	9,115 :	10,533:	7,554:	35,366
United Kingdom .....	1,177,028:	-- :	3,651:	276,184:	1,456,863
Other Europe .....	20,366:	14 :	2,060:	-- :	22,440
India .....	68,724:	-- :	-- :	53,246:	121,970
Israel .....	70,667:	-- :	37,087:	124,822:	232,576
Japan .....	162,391:	-- :	-- :	57,527:	219,918
Other Asia and Oceania .....	29,039:	45 :	154,440:	12,038:	195,562
Egypt .....	39,775:	-- :	-- :	-- :	39,775
Other Africa .....	28,748:	-- :	28,931:	56:	57,735
Total .....	3,606,179:	257,570 :	1,077,978:	1,479,624:	6,421,351

<sup>1/</sup> Includes seed corn except sweet, and exports for relief or charity.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

# REDUCED PEA CROP IN MOROCCO EXPECTED TO LOWER EXPORTS

A reduction in Morocco's 1960 dry pea crop, stemming from drought and smaller acreage, is expected to lower 1961 exports by 25 percent. Morocco is a source of supply for several Western European markets, particularly France, West Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

## MOROCCO: Dry pea exports, annual 1957-59

Country of Destination	1957	1958	1959
	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/
France.....	194	159	226
Germany, West.....	13	3	40
Netherlands.....	16	---	45
United Kingdom.....	12	12	22
Norway.....	6	3	4
Denmark.....	1	1	1
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	---	---	1
Italy.....	2	2	8
Other Europe.....	2	6	7
Total Europe.....	246	186	354
French West African countries.....	17	54	32
Grand total.....	263	240	386
1/ 100-pound bags.			

# INDIA UNDERGOES MEAT SHORTAGE

Residents of Calcutta and other Indian cities are experiencing a meat shortage.

The West Bengal Meat Sellers Association, representing Calcutta's retail shopkeepers, has considered closing its shops temporarily to force down wholesale prices. Retail markets are closed one day a week to conserve supplies. Stocks are short in Asansol, Patna, Jamshedpur, and possibly other cities in the Eastern Region.

The shortage is most keenly felt in mutton and goat because Indian meat eaters usually spurn beef and buffalo. Since October prices of sheep in Calcutta have advanced about 25 percent; retail mutton prices are up 31 percent.



Larger incomes resulting from urbanization have increased meat demand. Little increase, however, has taken place in livestock production in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, principal supply sources for the Eastern Region, because of greater crop production and absorption of pasture lands by industrial expansion.

#### SWISS ENCOURAGE INCREASED FEEDGRAIN PRODUCTION

Switzerland is continuing its efforts to increase domestic feedgrain production in order to reduce imports of these grains.

The payments farmers receive from the government for use of land in feedgrains were recently increased from 300 Swiss francs per hectare (\$28.11 per acre) to 400 francs per hectare (\$37.48 per acre).

Additional payments to farmers in mountainous areas were increased from 60 to 80 francs per hectare (\$5.62-\$7.50 per acre) for altitudes up to and including 1,000 meters (3,280 feet) and from 120 to 160 francs per hectare (\$11.24-\$14.99 per acre) for higher altitudes.

Beginning June 1, the government will pay feedgrain importers a subsidy of 2.5 francs per 100 kilograms (26.3 cents per 100 pounds) of domestic feed grains they purchase and resell in Switzerland.

On the same date the government will also begin to subsidize the cost of transporting domestic feedgrains up to a maximum of 1.5 francs per 100 kg (15.8 cents per 100 pounds).

The increases in payments to farmers and the expected effects of the other two subsidies on the producer prices of domestic feedgrains are aimed at increasing Switzerland's area in such grains by 15,000 hectares (37,100 acres) and its annual commercially available supply of domestic feedgrains by 45,000 metric tons.

#### WHEAT PROSPECTS BETTER IN NEAR EAST

Outlook for the Near East wheat crop is much more favorable than in the past 2 years. Drought greatly reduced crops in 1959 and 1960, and import needs have been much above normal.

If conditions remain favorable until harvest begins in May, import requirements for 1960-61 will likely be somewhat reduced. A brief statement of conditions in various countries follows.

Turkey - Precipitation has been below normal, and growth will be more dependent than usual on spring rainfall. However, if spring rains are adequate, a normal crop is possible.



Iran - The current outlook is good, and the wheat crop is expected to be large enough to cover domestic requirements.

Iraq - Wheat acreage is near the maximum possible under the alternate-year fallow system practiced in Iraq. A good harvest is expected, if conditions remain favorable.

Israel Rainfall has been almost up to normal levels, and yields are expected to be at least average. No acreage figures are available, but some shift from barley to wheat is indicated.

Syria - Rains during the winter make the outlook much more promising than at this time last year. If the weather continues favorable, the outturn is expected to be about normal after the poor crops of the past 2 seasons.

Lebanon - The outlook is for a wheat crop about double the poor crops of the past 2 years, if rains are adequate during the remainder of the growing season. To date, rainfall has been more plentiful than last year but is still below average.

Egypt - Production is expected to be near the high level of a year ago.

#### U.S. VEGETABLE FIBER IMPORTS DOWN IN 1960

Vegetable fibers (except cotton) imported into the United States in 1960 totaled 196,386 long tons, valued at \$43.9 million, compared with 256,560 tons at \$53.8 million in 1959.

The decline of 23 percent in quantity and 18 percent in value was largely the result of sizable decreases in abaca, sisal, jute, henequen, and istle. Small increases were made in kapok, sunn, and most of the other minor fibers.

Hard fibers, the principal group, accounted for 120,779 tons valued at \$28.8 million in 1960, compared with 172,677 tons at \$37.4 million in 1959 and an average of 218,141 tons at \$73.2 million from 1951 through 1955. This group included 72,229 tons of sisal; 24,211, henequen; 20,804, abaca; and 3,535, istle.

Soft fibers accounted for 59,469 tons valued at \$10.5 million, compared with 72,041 tons at \$12.9 million in 1959 and an average of 75,825 tons at \$19.3 million in 1951-55. Included are 54,687 tons of jute; 2,140, flax; 2,577, sunn; and 65, hemp.

The imports of 3,987 tons of palm-type fibers valued at \$961,000 included 550 tons of coir (coconut fiber); 258, raffia; 149, crin vegetal; and 3,030, piassava, palmyra, and others. This group increased 13 percent in quantity and 9 percent in value. Kapok imports were 9,450 tons

valued at \$2.9 million, compared with 7,142 tons at \$2.4 million in 1959--the largest gain among the fibers.

The average unit value of sisal rose to \$193 per ton in 1960 or 20 percent above the \$161 in 1959 and 39 percent above the 10-year low of \$139 in 1958. Henequen averaged \$170, compared with the low of \$124 in 1958.

Jute averaged \$168 or the lowest since 1951, the year of peak fiber prices. The lower average for jute in recent years when the prices were high is largely because of a scarcity in world supply of the better grades and a resultant greater ratio of lower grades in the import total. The abaca average leaped to \$506 from \$403 in 1959, and was the highest since the 1951 peak of \$598.

Asia furnishes about half of the U.S. supply of imported fiber with most of the abaca, jute, and kapok. The Americas furnish mostly sisal and henequen, and Africa mostly sisal and palm-type fibers.

UNITED STATES: Imports of the 4 principal long vegetable fibers, average 1951-55 and years 1958-1960

Year	Abaca			Sisal		
	Quan- tity	Value	Average value	Quan- tity	Value	Average value
	1,000 long tons	1,000 dollars	Dollars per ton	1,000 long tons	1,000 dollars	Dollars per ton
1951-55.....	54	25,109	466	123	38,031	309
1958.....	41	14,664	358	97	13,494	139
1959.....	40	16,204	403	87	14,075	161
1960.....	21	10,532	506	72	13,937	193
	Henequen			Jute		
1951-55.....	36	8,863	245	70	16,744	239
1958.....	20	2,519	124	37	8,014	214
1959.....	38	6,460	171	69	12,036	175
1960.....	24	4,116	170	55	9,155	168

Compiled from data of Bureau of the Census.

# THAI RICE EXPORTS CONTINUE HEAVY

Rice exports from Thailand in March continued at a high level, and trade sources expect April to be another good export month.

March shipments, at 168,000 tons, brought the total for the first quarter to 493,000 tons, compared with only 301,000 in the corresponding period of 1960. Substantial exports to Indonesia, Ceylon, and Taiwan have supplemented regular markets in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaya, and elsewhere.

RICE: Thai export prices, f.o.b. Bangkok 1/, April 10,  
with comparisons

Grade	1961		1960
	April 10	March 6	April 7
	Dollars per cwt.	Dollars per cwt.	Dollars per cwt.
White rice, 100-percent, first-grade....	6.54	6.71	6.17
White rice, 100-percent, second-grade...	6.38	6.59	--
White rice, 5 percent broken.....	6.03	6.14	5.47
White rice, 10 percent broken.....	5.84	5.86	5.28
White broken, A-1 Super.....	4.16	4.18	3.28
Cargo, 100-percent, first-grade.....	5.46	5.57	5.15

1/ Milled rice. Includes export premium, export tax, and cost of bags. Packed in bags of 100 kilograms (220.46 pounds) net.

Some buyer resistance to the upward price movement of late February and early March was indicated by a slight drop in prices in the first part of April. On April 10, the price of first-grade, 100-percent whole rice was \$6.54 per cwt., compared with the peak \$6.73 per cwt. on March 13.

## TROPICAL PRODUCTS BIG PORTION OF U.S. FARM IMPORTS

Tropical products represented two-thirds of all U.S. agricultural imports from 1955 through 1960.

Most of these commodities are not produced in the United States. Except for sugar, only a small part of U.S. agricultural imports are tropical products that can be produced outside the tropics. The value of tropical imports has been declining recently in relation to the value of all imports, which include nonfood and manufactured items.

## TROPICAL PRODUCTS: United States, value of imports, calendar years 1955-60

Commodities	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars
Coffee 1/.....	1,356,559	1,441,983	1,385,069	1,180,121	1,105,548	1,020,107
Cocoa 2/.....	225,109	176,281	165,034	203,920	202,990	178,835
Sugar .....	413,970	436,769	458,319	520,006	495,760	505,337
Tea .....	64,762	50,885	50,614	48,000	51,852	56,496
Rubber .....	444,812	402,460	353,318	251,263	413,317	327,995
Chicory .....	872	1,153	949	1,034	1,024	863
Molasses and Sirup 3/.....	7,090	6,599	2,619	2,629	3,476	3,921
Blackstrap Molasses .....	34,111	34,626	35,197	39,043	30,547	36,186
Honey .....	1,034	619	598	439	435	1,226
Paprika .....	2,581	2,799	2,373	2,587	2,763	1,933
Cinnamon .....	445	802	511	492	259	266
Capsicum or Red Pepper .....	1,215	1,309	1,176	1,223	1,037	1,434
Cassia Buds .....	1,320	1,348	1,430	3,027	3,249	2,834
Cloves .....	810	920	809	713	945	874
Ginger Root .....	686	1,132	1,110	623	532	576
Mustard .....	2,324	2,772	1,529	1,583	1,883	2,326
Nutmegs .....	1,492	3,517	2,779	3,394	4,164	3,674
Mace .....	729	992	806	571	733	754
Pepper 4/.....	14,652	11,114	8,212	8,948	9,155	20,040
Vanilla Beans .....	6,814	6,605	7,751	9,417	10,463	11,390
Other Spices 5/.....	4,030	3,949	3,599	3,569	4,343	3,748
Chicle .....	4,124	4,413	3,369	5,441	4,608	4,208
Gums - Arabic or Senegal .....	2,706	2,838	2,982	3,156	3,885	4,130
Gums - Tragacanth .....	2,570	3,833	2,065	2,270	2,594	1,912
Gums - Kadsa and Talca .....	1,920	1,750	1,436	1,321	1,335	1,751
Gums - Tragacanth .....	1,166	976	1,317	1,025	935	1,427
Other Gums 6/.....	976	534	1,686	1,014	850	827
Poppy Seed .....	1,538	1,287	1,670	1,361	1,533	1,139
Menthol .....	1,658	2,413	2,615	3,590	3,385	5,950
Pyrethrum .....	2,998	2,988	2,553	3,813	5,294	5,878
Licorice root and extract .....	2,155	1,908	1,996	1,450	1,801	1,874
Psyllium Seed .....	979	736	1,185	706	746	767
Other Drugs and Herbs 7/.....	718	407	424	569	541	267
Jute and manufactures .....	106,249	113,934	112,106	94,359	115,128	119,222
Flax and Hemp .....	3,882	3,843	4,197	2,661	5,471	3,295
Sisal and Henequen .....	23,803	20,955	17,860	16,922	20,534	18,053
Abaca .....	10,921	13,465	17,744	14,664	16,204	10,532
Kapok .....	2,216	2,612	2,127	2,027	2,412	2,947
Istle or Tampico .....	1,819	1,972	2,363	2,651	2,549	3,185
Other vegetable fibers 8/.....	2,364	2,549	2,521	2,328	2,443	3,461
Wattle bark and extract .....	2,753	3,033	2,352	1,929	2,177	1,597
Quebracho wood and extract .....	11,811	11,479	10,036	8,765	9,311	6,123
Other veg. dyeing and tanning material..	6,601	7,669	5,999	5,624	4,412	4,701
Carnauba wax .....	11,023	11,354	12,736	12,024	11,350	8,679
Candelilla wax .....	1,859	2,162	2,461	1,706	1,825	1,800
Citronella oil .....	2,475	4,032	3,832	2,129	1,243	1,668
Geranium oil .....	1,235	1,309	1,747	1,393	2,613	3,003
Bergamot oil .....	1,145	1,220	1,132	1,125	1,253	1,166
Lavender oil .....	1,479	1,502	1,104	1,019	1,129	898
Linaloe oil .....	2,930	2,121	1,142	882	1,160	830
Lemongrass oil .....	1,528	1,889	2,446	1,140	1,233	2,271
Lime oil .....	468	844	1,900	2,155	1,140	1,426
Lemon oil .....	206	383	397	282	342	280
Orange oil .....	108	153	196	159	193	98
Other vegetable oils .....	5,518	4,475	4,551	3,605	4,870	5,592
1. Total .....	2,811,318	2,825,672	2,718,049	2,487,867	2,560,874	2,411,772
2. Total all agriculture .....	3,971,300	3,947,600	3,952,500	3,880,700	4,098,900	3,824,647
Percentage 1 of 2 .....	70.7%	71.5%	68.7%	64.1%	62.9%	63.0%
3. Total imports (excluding reexports)..	11,227,617	12,372,041	12,787,044	12,734,476	14,987,074	14,645,407
Percentage 1 of 3 .....	25.0%	22.8%	21.2%	19.5%	17.2%	16.4%

1/ Includes raw, processed and essences. 2/ All forms including cocoa leaves. 3/ Edible, including maple sirup. 4/ Black and White. 5/ Includes Caraway, Anise, Cummin, Fennel, Celery, and Coriander seeds, Pimento, Tonka beans, Laurel and Origanum leaves, Sage, Spices NSFP. 6/ Leche caspi, Asafetida. 7/ Senna, Ipecac, Kola nuts. 8/ Excluding cotton.

Compiled from Bureau of the Census FT 110 Reports.



## COLOMBIA RAISES PRODUCER SUPPORT PRICE FOR BARLEY

Colombia's producer support price for 1961-crop barley will be 95 pesos per carga (\$2.05 per bushel), compared with 90 pesos per carga (\$1.94 per bushel) for 1960-crop barley.

The new price, announced by the Institute of National Supplies, is a minimum that must be paid by breweries for the Funza variety, produced from seed supplied by Procebada, the brewing companies' agricultural organization. Prices for other types are specified on a classification table prepared by the Institute of Technological Investigations.

The 1961 and 1960 base prices are for barley with no more than 15-percent moisture and 3-percent impurities, free of diseases and musty odor. The announcement of the 1961-crop support price was followed by a 6-percent increase in the regular market prices paid by the brewers.

Colombia's barley support price was the same in 1959 as in 1960. In 1958 it was 82 pesos per carga and in 1957 it was 72. The increases were made to keep the price of barley in line with those of other agricultural products.

## U.S. CATTLE IMPORTS RISE; RED MEATS SLIP

In January, U.S. imports of cattle were 84 percent above January 1960, but imports of red meats dropped 10 percent.

Cattle imports were higher as northern Mexico shipped larger numbers to the United States to relieve its short feed supplies. Canada shipped the smallest number in several months as feeder and slaughter cattle prices continued strong in that country.

Red meat imports continued the downward trend set in the latter half of 1960. Lamb imports were down 16 percent; beef and veal, 13; mutton, 9; and pork, 3. With beef prices averaging slightly lower than in 1960, the United States has become a less attractive market for foreign beef, veal, and mutton.

Variety meat imports, at 125,000 pounds, were 12 percent above January 1960. Nicaragua and Canada supplied most of these.

Imports of sausage casings were well above those of a year earlier owing to a continually strong domestic demand.

Imports of wool were 2 percent higher than in the previous year. Duty-free (carpet) wool imports were 12 percent higher, but dutiable (apparel) wool were 7 percent lower.

Imports of calf and kip skins were 14 percent larger than in the previous year. Imports of other hides and skins ranged from 9 to 80 percent below January 1960.



LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: U.S. imports of selected items, annual 1959 and 1960  
January 1960 and 1961, with percentage change

(Product weight basis)

Commodity	Annual			January		
	1959	1960	Percent change	1960	1961	Percent change
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	pounds	pounds	Percent	pounds	pounds	Percent
Red meats:						
Fresh, frozen, canned						
& cured beef & veal	626,249	491,296	-22	39,345	34,537	-12
Other meat.....	1/96,099	21,309	-78	2,199	2/1,659	-25
Total beef & veal...	722,348	512,605	-29	41,544	36,196	-13
Pork.....	174,946	171,313	-2	15,057	14,570	-3
Mutton.....	47,349	37,306	-21	3,974	3,606	-9
Lamb.....	9,455	12,431	+31	1,914	1,603	-16
Total red meat.....	954,098	733,655	-23	62,489	55,975	-10
Variety meats.....	2,295	1,751	-24	112	125	+12
Sausage casings:						
Sheep and goat.....	4,486	5,105	+14	377	420	+11
Other natural.....	10,112	10,573	+4	860	1,174	+36
Wool (clean basis):						
Dutiable.....	100,612	74,261	-26	8,379	7,262	-7
Duty-free.....	191,547	153,915	-20	12,428	13,901	+12
Total wool.....	292,157	228,176	-22	20,807	21,163	+2
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	pieces	pieces		pieces	pieces	
Hides and skins:						
Cattle and buffalo....	1,516	795	-53	53	40	-24
Calf and kip.....	1,566	1,363	-13	57	65	+14
Sheep and lambs.....	34,273	27,702	-19	1,962	1,775	-9
Goat and kid.....	24,014	19,255	-20	1,627	1,246	-23
Pig.....	1,292	815	-37	94	19	-80
Horse.....	494	443	-10	34	20	-41
Live cattle 3/ (Numbers):	708,755	663,174	-6	46,617	85,594	+84

1/ "Other meat, canned, prepared or preserved" mostly salted boneless beef from South America. 2/ Includes 818,848 pounds from Ireland and 501,324 pounds from Denmark. 3/ Includes cattle for breeding.

U.S. COTTON IMPORTS  
NEGLIGIBLE IN FEBRUARY

U.S. imports of cotton for consumption amounted to only 16<sup>4</sup> bales (500 pounds gross) during February, compared with 37<sup>4</sup> in January and 6,161 in February 1960. All February 1961 imports were from Pakistan.

Total imports from August 1960 through February 1961 were equivalent to 115,000 bales--down 14 percent from the 133,000 imported in the same period a year earlier. Quantities imported from major sources in August-February 1960-61, with 1959-60 figures in parentheses, were: Egypt 68,000 bales (67,000); Mexico 29,000 (38,000); and Peru 15,000 (15,000).

The above figures do not include imports of cotton in the form of picker lap, which is not subject to quota. Imports under the "basket category" in which picker lap is included amounted to about 49,000 bales (raw cotton equivalent) during calendar year 1960, against only 9,757 bales a year earlier. Imports in the form of picker lap from Canada and Mexico in 1960 were equivalent to about 43,300 bales.

Imports under the basket category during January and February 1961 were equivalent to 78<sup>4</sup> and 44<sup>4</sup> bales, respectively, of which 65<sup>4</sup> and 65 bales, respectively, were the cotton equivalent of picker lap imports from Mexico.

U.S. EXPORTS OF SOYBEANS AND EDIBLE OILS  
AT HIGH LEVEL; MEALS DOWN

U.S. exports of soybeans from October 1960 through February 1961 were 76.4 million bushels -- an increase of 7.8 million over the comparable period a year earlier. Increased shipments to Canada, Germany, the Benelux, and Taiwan more than offset smaller exports to Japan, France, and the Netherlands.

With the exception of January, exports in each of the 5 months have been up from the corresponding month of the previous year. About 10.2 million bushels of soybeans were exported in February, compared with 8.9 million in the same month of 1960.

Exports of edible oils in the October-February period were up slightly from the comparable period of the year before. A 40-percent drop in cottonseed oil shipments was more than offset by soybean oil exports, up nearly two-thirds from a year earlier. Large shipments to Greece, Spain, and Poland under Title I of Public Law 480 accounted for the increase.

Exports of oilseed meals and cakes in the first 5 months of this marketing year were one-third less than in 1959-60 when severe drought in Western Europe required large imports of feed supplies. Cottonseed cakes and meal were down 70 percent from a year earlier, while soybean meal exports declined about one-fourth.

SOYBEANS, EDIBLE OILS, AND OILSEED CAKES AND MEALS: U. S. exports,  
year beginning October 1, 1958 and 1959; October-February  
1959 and 1960

Item	Unit	1958-59	1959-60	October-February	
				1959-60	1960-61
			<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Soybeans.....	Million bushels	110.1	141.1	68.6	76.4
Oil equivalent....	Million pounds	1,208.6	1,549.8	753.2	839.3
Meal equivalent...	1,000 short tons	2,608.7	3,281.7	1,595.0	1,796.4
Edible oils:					
Soybean.....	Million pounds	930.4	952.8	213.0	350.3
Cottonseed.....	do.	404.2	503.3	296.6	166.9
Total.....	do.	1,334.6	1,456.1	509.6	517.2
Cakes and meals:					
Soybean.....	1,000 short tons	512.2	652.3	373.2	287.0
Cottonseed.....	do.	27.3	140.2	117.9	34.9
Linseed.....	do.	31.2	62.6	47.8	26.2
Total <u>2/</u> .....		581.0	870.5	545.7	352.0

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes peanut cake and meal and small quantities of other cakes and meals.

Bureau of the Census.

#### U.S. WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS RISE

U.S. wheat and flour exports from July 1960 through March 1961 are estimated at 486 million bushels--about 40 percent more than in the same period of 1959-60.

Most of the increase was the result of larger wheat shipments, up 133 million bushels, while flour exports were estimated to be up only about 4 million bushels (grain equivalent). Wheat and flour exports from July 1960 through February 1961 totaled 416 million bushels, compared with 295 million a year earlier. Wheat exports increased 49 percent over the 236 million shipped last season, and flour exports were about 10 percent larger than the 59 million bushels exported.

Principal countries taking substantially more wheat this season, with comparable 1959-60 figures in parentheses, were (in millions of bushels): Italy, 24 (.5); Poland, 35 (10); Spain, 11 (0); India, 95 (62); Japan, 23 (18); and Pakistan, 21 (14).

Most of the increase in flour exports went to (1) Syria, which took 5 million bushels (wheat equivalent), compared with 3,000 bushels the year before and (2) Egypt, which took 17 million bushels, compared with 11 million the previous year. Slightly less flour went to Italy and Japan. (Continued on next page).

**WHEAT AND FLOUR: U.S. exports by country of destination, July-February 1959-60  
and July-February 1960-61**

Country of destination	July-February 1959-60			July-February 1960-61		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
<b>Western Hemisphere:</b>						
Canada .....	964	80	1,044	5,730	42	5,772
Central America .....	1,722	2,415	4,137	1,974	2,012	3,986
Federation of West Indies .....	45	1,257	1,302	34	1,487	1,521
Cuba .....	3,710	1,447	5,157	547	1,120	1,667
Bolivia .....	--	1,381	1,381	--	1,903	1,903
Brazil .....	25,024	25	25,049	20,309	3	20,312
Chile .....	--	141	141	1,200	738	1,938
Colombia .....	394	397	791	1,741	663	2,404
Peru .....	3,111	225	3,336	2,385	232	2,617
Venezuela .....	5,889	252	6,141	5,380	82	5,462
Others .....	1,547	2,428	3,975	1,222	1,575	2,797
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>42,406</b>	<b>10,048</b>	<b>52,454</b>	<b>40,522</b>	<b>9,857</b>	<b>50,379</b>
<b>Europe:</b>						
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	2,023	11	2,034	3,041	3	3,044
Germany, West .....	8,180	341	8,521	5,002	256	5,258
Greece .....	128	1,672	1,800	2,212	1,417	3,629
Italy .....	546	5,586	6,132	23,706	3,953	27,659
Netherlands .....	3,925	2,491	6,416	4,341	2,161	6,502
Poland .....	10,127	449	10,576	34,833	462	35,295
Portugal .....	89	498	587	2,022	654	2,676
Spain .....	--	361	361	11,731	228	11,959
Switzerland .....	619	--	619	1,449	--	1,449
United Kingdom .....	12,191	492	12,683	11,422	977	12,399
Yugoslavia .....	8,619	2,042	10,661	2,903	1,677	4,580
Others .....	4,414	680	5,094	2,768	781	3,549
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>50,861</b>	<b>14,623</b>	<b>65,484</b>	<b>105,430</b>	<b>12,569</b>	<b>117,999</b>
<b>Asia:</b>						
Ceylon .....	--	2,468	2,468	--	2,924	2,924
India .....	61,832	27	61,859	94,613	166	94,779
Indonesia .....	10	2,704	2,714	--	367	367
Iran .....	--	103	103	3,768	145	3,913
Israel .....	3,431	130	3,561	4,963	112	5,075
Japan .....	17,733	1,904	19,637	22,772	1,880	24,652
Jordan .....	1,484	530	2,014	2,233	1,182	3,415
Korea .....	5,701	1,076	6,777	7,652	786	8,438
Lebanon .....	407	2,211	2,618	740	509	1,249
Pakistan .....	14,407	227	14,634	21,418	645	22,063
Philippines .....	655	3,081	3,736	3,933	889	4,822
Saudi Arabia .....	46	1,578	1,624	20	1,634	1,654
Syria .....	990	3	993	4,977	4,226	9,203
Taiwan (Formosa) .....	6,223	750	6,973	7,406	810	8,216
Turkey .....	6,732	34	6,766	6,585	67	6,652
Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia .....	--	1,448	1,448	575	2,388	2,963
Others .....	2,797	1,426	4,223	2,222	2,420	4,642
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>122,448</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>142,148</b>	<b>183,877</b>	<b>21,150</b>	<b>205,027</b>
<b>Africa:</b>						
Canary Islands .....	1,596	4	1,600	943	4	947
Egypt .....	13,997	10,781	24,778	12,844	17,462	30,306
Morocco .....	459	346	805	827	583	1,410
Nigeria .....	--	1,379	1,379	--	1,374	1,374
Tunisia .....	1,854	37	1,891	3,577	57	3,634
Union of South Africa .....	1,097	--	1,097	--	1	1
Others .....	1,599	1,988	3,587	3,408	1,825	5,233
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>20,602</b>	<b>14,535</b>	<b>35,137</b>	<b>21,599</b>	<b>21,306</b>	<b>42,905</b>
<b>Oceania .....</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>World total 2/ .....</b>	<b>236,317</b>	<b>58,936</b>	<b>295,253</b>	<b>351,428</b>	<b>64,911</b>	<b>416,339</b>

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat (grain equivalent). 2/ Includes shipments for relief or charity.



PHILIPPINE REGISTERED EXPORTS  
OF DESICCATED COCONUT DECLINE

Philippine registered exports of desiccated coconut in January and February totaled 4,854 short tons. This represented a decline of one-fourth from the volume recorded in January-February 1960.

Shipments of desiccated coconut reported for the year 1960 were 61,567 tons, an increase of 70 percent from 1959 and 4 percent from 1958.

The United States, traditionally the major market, took 92 percent of the 1960 total. Shipments to Europe and South America in 1960 recovered almost to 1958 levels following 1959 when no shipments to those areas were recorded.

DESICCATED COCONUT: Philippine Republic, exports by country of destination, calendar years 1958-60, February 1960 and 1961 and January-February 1960-61

Country of destination	1958	1959	1960 1/	February		January-February	
				1960 1/	1961 1/	1960 1/	1961 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North America:							
United States 2/.....	54,765	36,121	56,610	4,562	3,170	6,460	4,457
Atlantic Coast.....	(47,339)	(32,976)	(44,115)	(3,815)	(2,315)	(5,276)	(3,300)
Pacific Coast.....	( 7,364)	( 3,119)	( 9,569)	( 517)	( 583)	( 896)	( 798)
Canada.....	621	320	577	60	43	80	43
Total.....	55,386	36,441	57,187	4,622	3,213	6,540	4,500
South America:							
Venezuela.....	16	---	5	---	---	---	5
Unspecified.....	---	---	5	---	---	---	---
Total.....	16	---	10	---	---	---	5
Europe:							
Belgium.....	242	---	43	---	5	---	5
Denmark.....	22	---	68	---	---	---	---
France.....	---	---	15	---	5	---	5
Germany, West.....	1,901	---	1,878	---	127	---	127
Ireland.....	---	---	10	---	20	---	20
Italy.....	---	---	180	---	---	---	---
Netherlands.....	1,359	---	284	15	---	15	---
Norway.....	---	---	20	---	---	---	---
Spain.....	---	---	131	---	42	---	55
Sweden.....	---	---	22	---	12	---	23
United Kingdom.....	255	---	77	---	---	---	---
Unspecified.....	---	---	1,010	---	---	---	---
Total.....	3,779	---	3,738	15	211	15	235
Africa:							
Union of South Africa..	---	---	56	---	12	---	23
Asia:							
Japan.....	---	---	3	---	2	---	3
Oceania:							
Australia.....	---	---	573	---	84	---	88
New Zealand.....	---	22	---	---	---	---	---
Total.....	---	22	573	---	84	---	88
Grand total.....	59,181	36,463	61,567	4,637	3,522	6,555	4,854

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Includes Gulf Coast, Great Lakes ports, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

Source: Official Sources - 1958 and 1959, Philippine Trade Sources - 1960 and 1961.



# BRAZIL'S CASTOR BEAN OUTTURN TO CONTINUE HIGH

Brazil's 1961 production of castor beans is expected to equal the record crop of last year. The weather will greatly influence the yield, but high bean prices could also increase the acreage planted to castor.

According to Brazilian trade estimates, 1960 production was 226,000 short tons, an 18-percnet increase from the 1957-59 average of about 191,000. The carryover of beans from the 1960 crop is expected to keep the crushing industry busy through June.

CASTOR BEANS: Brazil, area and production, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1957-60

Period or year	Planted area	Production
	Acres	Short tons
Average:		
1935-39.....	295,682	147,995
1950-54.....	543,152	187,414
Annual:		
1957 (final official).....	589,484	220,775
1958 (preliminary official).....	537,984	191,000
1959 (unofficial estimate).....	543,620	160,000
1960 (unofficial estimate).....	593,040	226,000

Castor oil exports in 1960 were an estimated 45,000 tons, a 13-percent drop from the previous year. However, 1961 exports will probably be up because of recent heavy purchases by the U.S.S.R. and several other Eastern European countries.

With a strong demand for castor oil, both domestically and for export, and reduced production in India, the price level of oil has remained high in spite of the large 1960 crop. The free market rate of exchange, which is applicable to castor oil exports, has increased to Cr \$265 per U.S. \$1.00 from the 1960 average rate of Cr \$190.

## ECUADOR EXPORTS MORE RICE

Ecuador's rice exports in 1960 were the largest in 3 years.

For the third consecutive year, major exports have been rough rice to Venezuela. In 1960, the volume was over 32,200 metric tons, compared with 15,834 in 1959 and 32,626 in 1958. Prior to 1958 virtually all exports were milled rice.

The only other important exports in 1960 were 5,800 tons of milled rice to Cuba in September and October.

RICE: Ecuador's exports, by country of destination, 1956-60

Country	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Rough rice:					
Venezuela.....	0	0	32,626	15,834	32,258
Total.....	0	0	32,626	15,834	32,258
Milled rice:					
Colombia.....	0	10,000	0	0	0
Costa Rica.....	3,248	3,490	1,733	3,938	0
Cuba.....	0	0	0	0	5,796
Nicaragua.....	4,476	184	230	0	0
Peru.....	0	20,046	46	10	14
Venezuela.....	0	0	2,028	2,560	0
Other countries..	3,973	4,250	486	124	7
Total.....	11,697	37,970	4,523	6,632	5,817

Compiled from official sources.

Current rice supplies are lower than usual because of the small 1960 crop. The late rainy season reduced acreage and yield per acre.

Ample rainfall permitted normal planting of the 1961 crop, harvested principally from May through August. Production is expected to be considerably higher than in 1960.

U.S. IMPORTS LESS  
COTTON LINTERS

U.S. imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, amounted to 80,000 bales (500 pounds gross) from August 1960 through February 1961--30 percent below the 114,000 bales imported in the same period of 1959-60. Linters imports in February totaled 10,000 bales, compared with 11,000 in January and 24,000 in February 1960.

Quantities imported from principal sources during August-February 1960-61, with comparable 1959-60 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 44,000 bales (79,000); U.S.S.R. 13,000 (18,000); Brazil 5,000 (1,000); Syria 5,000 (0); and Argentina 3,000 (0).

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Despite the likelihood of increased imports of U.S. cotton and a favorable consumption level, total Canadian imports this season probably will amount to somewhat less than the 365,000 bales in 1959-60 because stocks at the beginning of this season were at the relatively high level of 100,000 bales and may be lowered moderately without difficulty.

Canadian cotton consumption of 204,000 bales thus far this season is running moderately ahead of the 198,000 bales used in the like 1959-60 period. This rate may show some decrease in the remaining months, but total consumption in 1960-61 likely will equal or exceed slightly the 325,000 bales used last season. Although Canada is experiencing an economic slump, personal income has been well maintained, and the cotton industry is optimistic that demand for cotton goods this summer will surpass that of a year earlier.

Imports of cotton goods into Canada, at 30 million pounds during 1960, eased from the 32.3 million pounds imported in 1959. Imports from the United States, Canada's largest supplier, and the United Kingdom declined in both volume and percent of total in 1960, while imports increased from other sources, particularly Japan and Hong Kong.

Canadian exports of cotton textiles rose sharply in 1960 to 17 million yards, compared with annual average exports of only 4.6 million yards during the preceding 5 years. These exports reportedly consist largely of specialized goods shipped to the United Kingdom.